

FISH & WILDLIFE COMMISSION AGENDA ITEM COVER SHEET

Meeting Date: December 11, 2014

Agenda Item: WMA Public Use Rules

Division: Wildlife

Action Needed: Endorsement

Time Needed on Agenda for this Presentation: 10 minutes

Background

The F&W Commission adopted a set of public use rules for Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs) and Wildlife Habitat Protection Areas (WHPAs) in December 2012. These rules are scheduled for updating—if needed—and adoption by the commission every two years. A brief summary of recommended changes include the following:

- Addition of Fisheries Conservation Areas (FCAs) to the list of properties covered by the public use rules.
- Clarification of public uses and restrictions on FCAs and WHPAs, including pets, riding stock, camping, fires, hunting blinds, and trapping.
- Clarification of camping opportunities and restrictions on WMAs in Region 6.
- Prohibition of exploding targets.

Public Involvement Process & Results

Current rules underwent a public review process before being adopted in 2012. No public review has taken place on proposed changes to those rules to date.

Alternatives and Analysis

One or more of the rules could be modified based on public and commission recommendations.

Agency Recommendation & Rationale

FWP recommends that the commission endorse proceeding with a public review of the proposed rules.

Proposed Motion

I move the Fish and Wildlife Commission adopt the proposed 2015-16 biennial WMA Public Use Rules